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Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 14, 1949.

KURSK AND PENZEN ORLAST PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES CRITICIZED

At a recent session of the Ministry of Public Health RSFSR a report was submitted by I. Ya. Olimpiyev, deputy from the Kursk Oblast Public Health Begartment and S. M. Reznikov, chief of a field unit, Ministry of Public Health bases.

In 1948 the Kursk Oblast Public Health Department trained 62 specialists. At present, only three rayons are lacking surgeons and two are lacking pediatricians. Equipment has been installed at 40 rural hospitals permitting them to carry out artificial pneumothorax treatments.

Some deficiencies were noted. For example 18 of the rayon public health departments are being administered by middle medical personnel. Only 72.8 percent of the hospital bed program has been completed. Construction of medical installations is progressing slowly. In this latter category, maly 52 percent of numicipal plans and only 21 percent of rural plans have been completed.

Many reports coming to the Ministry show evidences of inefficient and burnamentic trends in the unification of hospitals and polyclinics. Many of the climic-diagnostic laboratories are headed by middle medical personnel and do poor quality work. The laboratories' efforts are particularly ineffective in the control of malaria.

There is poor cooperation between the Oblast Public Health Department and the oblast soviet, and the latter is completely ignorant of the disease, mortality or health statistics for the Oblast. Furthermore the Public Health Department does not seem interested enough in the welfare of oblast medical workers. Antituberculosis work is inefficient, and the oblast hospital has done nothing to organize a rural health service network.

During the same session, the Ministry heard a report submitted by A. I. Levkov, chief physician of the Panson Oblast Hospital, and V. A. Goryushin.

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The Penzen Oblast Hospital is one of the oldest institutions in the oblast and is staffed by doctors and physicians who have had at least 10 years' practice in their specialties. During the past year, 46 specialists have been trained and assigned to rural hospitals, and 32 middle medical personnel were graduated. In the past 2 years the number of oblast surgeons has arisen from 11 to 37. The number of hospital beds in rural communities has grown 3.5 times. A special seminar was organized for rayon hospital doctors to acquaint them with pathologo-matomical developments.

Mevertheless some aspects of the hospital's operation require improvement; patients are not being cared for properly, and hospital beds are not being utilized to fullest advantage. The Ministry of Public Health recommended that the hospital authorities act promptly on Decree Wo 114 of the Ministry of Public Health USER.

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